



News from **SALEM COUNTY** Office of Public Information

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SALEM COUNTY'S ARTS IN BLOOM 2011 TAKES PLACE MAY 21 & 22

(SALEM, NJ)—Salem County's riverfront and countryside are especially beautiful this time of year and the County's arts community has once again organized a special weekend celebration of arts combining the beauty of the season with the artists' creativity. Arts in Bloom 2011 is a free event taking place Saturday, May 21, and Sunday, May 22, 10 am – 6 pm. Artists will be exhibiting their best work at 27 locations across the County, several of which are opening for the first time.

"Arts in Bloom 2011 is the third year for this event, which attracts visitors from throughout the region," said Freeholder Beth Timberman. "Salem County's arts community is diverse and surprising, and Arts in Bloom annually showcases new work and artists."

The weekend features over 50 artists representing a wide variety of new work. Painting, sculpture, photography, printmaking, collage, glass art, ceramics, furniture-making, woodworking, leatherwork, metalsmithing, fashion design, fiber arts and puppetry are all included in this very special event. Some locations are also featuring plein air painting demonstrations as well as musical performances, and spinning and weaving demonstrations – truly something for everyone.

"New this year is the Family Fun Tour," Timberman added. "Hands-on activities are being offered at five locations in Alloway, Elsinboro and Upper Pittsgrove designed to engage the whole family."

Activities include feltmaking at Wilson Wool Works, Mannington, puppetry at Dr. Neff's Incredible Puppet Co., Monroeville, stone arrowhead making at Camp Edge and leatherworking at Diana's Leather Shoppe, both in Alloway, and clay sculpting at Klayhorse Studio, Elsinboro.

This two-day event is self-guided and there is no admission charge. As an added bonus, many restaurants and eateries are offering tourgoers special premiums and discounts. Visitors simply get their program brochures stamped at three locations to entitle them to the premiums during the weekend.



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“The arts experience here in Salem County has a very special flavor,” said Timberman.
“The riverfront and countryside are beautiful and inspire creativity, and our artists are looking forward to introducing visitors to their surroundings.”

Tour brochures listing all the participating sites and merchants are available on-line at www.visitsalemcountynj.com or by contacting the Salem County Cultural & Heritage Commission (856-935-7510 x8532). Printed brochures are available at the Salem County Visitors Center, 1 New Market St., Salem, NJ (856) 935-9242, and at participating sites.

Arts in Bloom is a truly unique and memorable opportunity to discover the arts and artists of Salem County.